

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 20 Feb 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 21 Feb 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 19 Feb 2021 at 16:17 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for a period of wet and windy weather with more settled days on Sunday and Monday before further heavy rain and strong winds. Generally strong winds throughout the forecast. Lower confidence in rainfall amounts and timings of clearance of the rain.

Headline for Saturday 20 Feb 2021: A dull start with some light rain and patchy drizzle, more persistent and heavy rain spreading north across the hills later, very windy.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Gales

High Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy Snow

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

Medium Likelihood

Storm force winds

Low Likelihood

Poor visibility

Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m

Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Light rain showers (night)	Cloudy	Dull	Drizzle	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet
Precipitation probability							
30%	30%	30%	30%	80%	>95%	>95%	70%

Forecast for Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Weather: Some dry weather in the early hours but some patchy light rain for more southerly ranges around Argyll. A dull start but dry for many for a couple of hours in the morning but cloud soon thickening and rain spreading north during by lunchtime. More exposed southerly ranges seeing the heaviest and most persistent rain. Rain continuing in the evening and becoming sleety on the highest tops in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 60% during the morning before the rain but cloud lowering as rain approaches and perhaps 10% during the afternoon with most hills shrouded in cloud.

Visibility: Moderate or good visibility during the morning with cloud bases around the summits but cloud gradually lowering and by early afternoon most ranges will have overcast cloud bases from 400m and above. Visibility will generally be poor during the persistent afternoon rain and very poor at times in heavier rain.

Forecast for Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	36/44 S	29/36 S	30/37 SE	40/50 SE	48/60 SE	58/73 SE	65/83 S	50/66 SW	46/59 S
900	26/35 SW	20/27 S	20/25 SE	30/40 SE	34/45 SE	38/51 SE	43/60 S	37/51 SW	32/45 S
600	34/41 S	26/31 S	24/30 SE	36/44 SE	43/53 SE	50/63 SE	52/67 S	44/57 SW	39/51 S
300	16/25 S	14/23 S	15/23 SE	20/31 SE	24/36 SE	28/41 SE	29/45 S	25/41 SW	21/34 S
Glen	9/22 SW	7/16 S	5/13 SE	5/17 SE	14/30 SE	18/38 SE	20/43 S	18/38 SW	15/32 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	0/-8	-0/-8	-1/-9	0/-8	1/-8	2/-8	2/-8	-0/-10	-2/-12
900	2/-4	2/-4	1/-5	2/-5	3/-4	4/-4	4/-3	2/-5	0/-7
600	5/-1	5/-0	6/1	6/1	7/1	7/1	7/1	4/-3	4/-4
300	7/3	7/3	6/3	7/3	8/3	9/4	9/5	7/2	5/0
Glen	8/6	8/6	7/5	8/7	10/7	11/7	11/7	9/5	7/4
Freezing Level*	1200m	1200m	1200m	1300m	1700m	1900m	1700m	1200m	900m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Freezing level mainly above the summits so a continued slow melt of snow will enhance already full watercourses and very soggy ground conditions. Some low level flooding is possible. Severe gales on the tops during the afternoon becoming storm force for a time in the evening.

Forecast for Sunday 21 Feb 2021

Weather: Outbreaks of rain and snow will die out and there will be some clear spells overnight. Turning into a dry and bright day with some sunny intervals. A few wintry showers during the afternoon.

Maximum wind: South or southwesterly 35mph with gusts 40-45mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% generally cloud above the summits but there may be some patches below 800m at times especially around any passing showers.

Visibility: Generally good or very good visibility throughout the day, perhaps dipping moderate in showers.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 3 rising to plus 7 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 2 Celsius
Freezing level: Around 1000m